

When it comes to our allies, I have been pleased that most have really stepped up to help Ukraine during this crisis. The British have provided anti-tank missiles. When I was in Ukraine recently with the congressional delegation, as we left the airport—this was about 3 weeks ago—a cargo plane arrived—an American-made cargo plane—with weapons from the U.K. The United Kingdom was providing anti-tank weapons to Ukraine. I saw them being unloaded, and I saw the smiles on the faces of the Ukrainians knowing that this will give them a better chance to defend themselves. We appreciate the Brits.

The Canadians have helped, specifically recently providing important training on some of the new equipment they are getting. The Danes have helped with additional funding, and the Baltics have transferred weapons as well. Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have all been strongly supportive. Poland has been so supportive—and so many others.

We need all of our allies to step up like that—certainly all of our NATO allies but, really, all freedom-loving countries around the world. This is where the cause of freedom is being fought right now.

My hope is that Congress can come together and speak with one voice—Republicans and Democrats alike—pass bipartisan sanctions legislation and an aid package that sends a strong message of support to the Ukrainian people, a message that we stand with them in their fight for freedom but also sends a strong message to Russia that, if they choose to invade further, the armed conflict will carry a heavy cost, the sanctions will be devastating—and, finally, legislation that sends a strong message to the world that the United States stands with its allies in Eastern Europe and throughout freedom-loving countries across the world.

The time to speak is now, with one voice. The world is listening and watching.

JOHN H. LEAHR AND HERBERT M. HEILBRUN POST OFFICE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to come to the Senate floor today to speak in support of a bill sponsored by the entire Ohio delegation naming the post office in Avondale—of Cincinnati, OH—for two World War II aviators: John Leahr and Herbert Heilbrun.

These two remarkable men—one Black and one White—grew up in Avondale, which is a neighborhood which is part of Cincinnati, OH. They dreamed of flying and signed up for the Army Air Corps after Pearl Harbor. John Leahr flew the P-51 Mustang with the Tuskegee Airmen, and Herb Heilbrun flew the B-17 bomber.

The Tuskegee fighters were assigned to protect the bombers in the European theater. John and Herb worked together on some of the same missions, but as World War II airmen, they were segregated and did not interact. They didn't get to know each other until more than 50 years after the war ended.

In 1997, Herb Heilbrun discovered that an event for the Tuskegee Airmen was going to be held in downtown Cincinnati. He decided to stop by and thank the fighter pilots who helped protect him and his bomber and his bomber squad in Europe.

There, Herb met John Leahr, and the two men hit it off and discovered how much they had in common. They found out they had both grown up in Avondale and both spent time waiting for training working at the same engine plant: Wright Aeronautical in Lockland, OH. They realized they had been in the same third grade class at North Avondale Elementary School. Luckily, Herb had saved the class picture; and there, you can see them standing right next to each other, John and Herb.

Their friendship was obviously meant to be. John Leahr had long wanted to make sure people knew about the Tuskegee Airmen and their contributions during the war. Together, John and Herb shared their story with schoolchildren and adults, talking about how things were different in the past and promoting racial understanding and the rejection of bigotry today.

Here they are with a group of young people, Herb and John, with models of the airplanes that they flew.

The Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations honored them for their work in 2003, and in 2007, there was a book—“Black and White Airmen: Their True History”—and it recounts their story.

John died in 2015 at the age of 94. Herb died in 2020 at 100 years old.

I believe naming this post office in their neighborhood for John Leahr and Herb Heilbrun is a fitting way to honor the memory of this team, who served our country with bravery and distinction in World War II but then continued an important part of their public service long after their military service ended.

My hope is that this legislation will be passed by the Senate on a bipartisan basis and we can name this post office after these two remarkable men.

(Ms. HASSAN assumed the Chair.)

TRIBUTE TO ANGIE YOUNGEN

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, finally, I want to acknowledge someone who is in the Chamber tonight. I want to acknowledge her dedicated service. This is one of my senior staff members,

who is moving to Richmond, VA, to join the new Virginia Governor's administration.

Angie Youngen is an Ohio native and an Ashland University graduate—who is very proud of that—and who was the scheduler for my predecessor, Senator George Voinovich. I have had the good fortune of having her on my team. Her loyalty, hard work, and judgment over the past 8 years is deeply appreciated.

So, Angie Youngen, we will miss you here on Capitol Hill, but best of luck in your new adventure.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:57 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate February 8, 2022:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HOMER L. WILKES, OF MISSISSIPPI, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT.

THE JUDICIARY

JOHN P. HOWARD III, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

LOREN L. ALIKHAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

CHANTALE YOKMIN WONG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DIRECTOR OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMY GUTMANN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

LISA A. CARTY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations under the authority of the order of the Senate of 01/07/2009 and the nominations were placed on the Executive Calendar pursuant to S.Res. 116, 112th Congress:

*PARISA SALEHI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, EXPORT-IMPORT BANK.

*BRIAN MICHAEL TOMNEY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY.

*Nominee has committed to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.